REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are in the case and presented for reconsideration. Claims 1, 12, 19 and 20 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

The drawings have been objected to because the feature that reference number (54) refers to in Fig. 2 did not state which path is a "yes" path or a "no" path. The correction to Fig. 2 has been made and is enclosed herewith.

The disclosure has been objected to based on the informality that the "leads" and the "driver circuit" utilize the same reference numeral (33) on Fig. 1. Fig. 1 has been corrected in order to indicate that the leads are now identified as (33a). Likewise, the Specification has been amended accordingly.

Claims 19 and 20 have been objected to based on informalities. The amendments made to these claims are believed to have overcome this objection.

Claim 1 has been amended in order to more particularly point out a method for tracking an object further comprising a fifth step (v) if testing reveals a convergence of the computation, then repeating steps (i) through (iv) for N repetitions, wherein N equals a number of times. The support for this Amendment can be found in the Specification, for example, Page 14, Line 12 – Page 15, Line 18.

Claim 12 has been amended in order to more particularly point out an apparatus for attracting an object wherein the system controller repeats step (i) making multiple computations of special coordinates of the object based on the signals generated at the different frequencies, and step (ii) to ascertain whether the energy fields have been perturbed by an article in the vicinity of the object by testing a convergence of the computations, when testing reveals a convergence of the computations for N repetitions, wherein N equals a number of times. The support for this Amendment can be found in the Specification, for example, Page 14, Line 12 – Page 15, Line 18.

Claims 1-22 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,073,043 (Schneider). Upon a closer reading of this reference, it is clear that Schneider does not teach or suggest a method for tracking an object comprising the combination of steps comprising (i) producing energy fields at a plurality of different frequencies in a vicinity of the object; (ii) receiving signals that are generated at a location of the object at the different frequencies in response to the energy field; (iii) making multiple computations of spatial coordinates of the object based on the signals received at the different frequencies; (iv) ascertaining whether the energy fields have been perturbed by an article in the vicinity of the object by testing a convergence of the computations; and (v) if testing reveals a convergence of the computation, then repeating steps (i) through (iv) for N repetitions, wherein N equals a number of times. This novel combination of method steps such as found with Applicants Claim 1 (as amended) is neither described nor suggested in Schneider.

Additionally, Schneider does not teach or suggest an apparatus or tracking an object comprising at least one radiator which is adapted to reduce energy fields at a plurality of different frequencies in a vicinity of the object; at least one sensor, fixed to the object, which is adapted to generate signals in response to the energy fields at the different frequencies; and a system controller which is adapted to: (i) make multiple computations of spatial coordinates of the object based on the signals generated at the different frequencies, and to (ii) ascertain whether the energy fields have been perturbed by an article in the vicinity of the object by testing a convergence of the computations, wherein the system controller repeats (i) and (ii) when testing reveals a convergence of the computations for N repetitions, wherein N equals a number of times. This novel combination of features for an apparatus for tracking an object such as found with Applicant's Claim 12 (as amended) is neither described nor suggested in the Schneider reference.

Accordingly, by this Amendment and for the reasons listed above, the claimed present invention as amended is neither anticipated by nor rendered obvious by the cited prior art references and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By:_____

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Dated: September 16, 2005

Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace original Fig. 1 and original Fig. 2 with Replacement Sheets for Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 respectively. A copy of the Replacement Sheets are attached for the Examiner's approval.